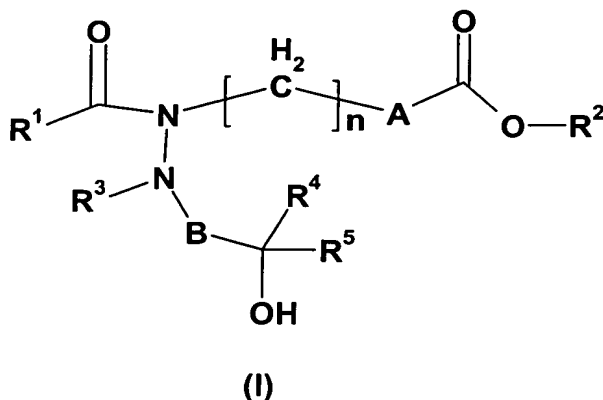


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hydrazide derivative of Formula (I):



as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers, diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein:

A is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

B is selected from the group consisting of C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkylene, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenylene, and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynylene;

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, heteroaryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl;

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl and C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl[.];

R<sup>4</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> heteroalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, heteroaryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl; and

n is an integer selected from the group consisting of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative ~~of~~ according to claim 1, wherein A is selected from the group consisting of aryl and heteroaryl.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, wherein A is phenyl.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein B is ethylene.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is H.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> H.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is H.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein n is 2.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein A is phenyl; B is ethylenyl; R<sup>1</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl; R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are H; R<sup>3</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H and methyl; and n is 2.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is selected from the group consisting of H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl and C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> cycloalkyl

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is heteroaryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub> cycloalkyl.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, selected from the ~~following~~ group consisting of:

## Preliminary Amendment

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[3-hydroxy-4-(3-iodophenyl)butyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-bromophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(1,1'-biphenyl-3-yl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(phenylethynyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxy-4-phenylbutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-ethynylphenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-(2-{1-acetyl-2-[4-(3-fluorophenyl)-3-hydroxybutyl]hydrazino}ethyl)benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[4-(phenylethynyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxy-4-thien-2-ylbutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{4-[3-(cyclopropylethynyl)phenyl]-3-hydroxybutyl}hydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-[2-(2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}-1-isobutyrylhydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-[2-(2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}-1-propionylhydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-[2-(1-acetyl-2-{3-hydroxy-4-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]butyl}hydrazino)ethyl]benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-cyclohexyl-3-hydroxypropyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid; or and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of said compounds.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A hydrazide derivative selected from the following group consisting of:

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxyoctyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxyoctyl)-2-methylhydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid;

4-{2-[1-acetyl-2-(3-hydroxybutyl)hydrazino]ethyl}benzoic acid; and

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of said compounds.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, for use as a medicament.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A method for treating a disease or disorder associated with prostaglandins, comprising administering to a mammal suffering from or susceptible to such a disease or disorder an effective amount of a compound ~~of any one of claims 1 through 17~~ according to claim 1.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A method for treating a mammal is suffering from or susceptible to pre-term labor, dysmenorrhea, asthma, hypertension, undesired blood clotting, pre-eclampsia, eclampsia, an eosinophil disorder, undesired bone loss, renal dysfunction, an immune deficiency disorder, dry eye, ichthyosis, elevated intra-ocular pressure, a gastric ulcer, fertility disorders, sexual dysfunction and inflammatory disorders comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of a compound ~~of any one of claims 1 through 17~~ according to claim 1.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method according to claims 19 or 20~~  
claim 19, wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible undesired muscle contraction.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method according to claim 19,~~ wherein  
the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to pre-term labor.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method according to claims 19 or 20~~  
claim 19, wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to a respiratory disease  
selected from asthma, chronic obstructive respiratory disease and emphysema.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method of claims 19 or 20~~ claim 19,  
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to hypertension.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method of claims 19 or 20~~ claim 19,  
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible to bone loss.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method of claims 19 or 20~~ claim 19,  
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible ovulatory disorders.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The method of claims 19 or 20~~ claim 19,  
wherein the mammal is suffering from or susceptible erectile dysfunction.

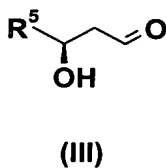
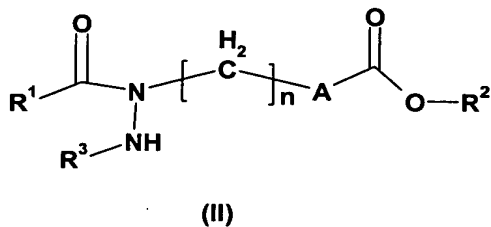
Claim 28 (Currently Amended): ~~Use of a compound of any one of claims 1 through~~  
~~17~~ The hydrazide derivative according to claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament to treat  
a disease or disorder associated with prostaglandin.

Claim 29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and one or more compounds ~~of any one of claims 1 through 17~~ according to claim 1.

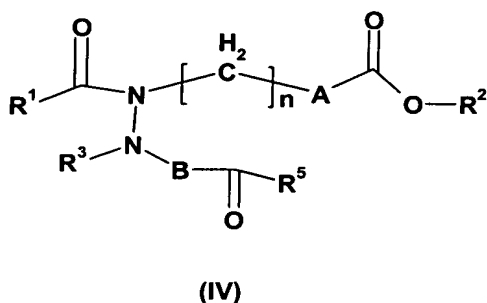
Claim 31 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The pharmaceutical composition ~~of~~ according to claim 30, wherein the compound is packaged together with instructions for use of the compound to treat a disorder or a disease selected from preterm labor, dysmenorrhea, asthma, hypertension, undesired blood clotting, a destructive bone disease or disorder, preeclampsia or eclampsia, an eosinophil disorder, renal dysfunction an immune deficiency disorder, dry eye, ichthyosis, elevated intraocular pressure and gastric ulcers.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of claims 1 to 17~~ claim 1, comprising the step of a reductive amination of a hydrazide of Formula II with a compound of Formula III in presence of a reducing agent:



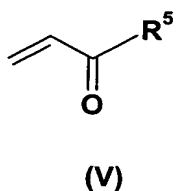
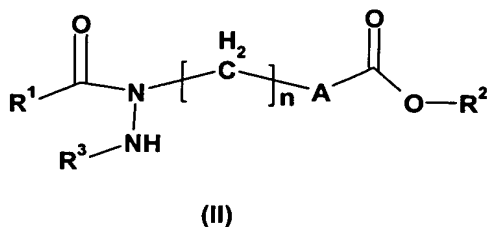
wherein A, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and n are as defined above; R<sup>5</sup> is -CH<sub>2</sub>-R<sup>6</sup> wherein R<sup>6</sup> is selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> heteroalkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl, aryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl and heteroaryl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub> alkyl.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A process for the preparation of a hydrazide derivative according to ~~any of claims 1 to 13~~ claim 1, comprising the step of a reduction of a compound of Formula IV:



wherein A, B, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and n are as defined above.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The process of~~ according to claim 29, further comprising the step of an addition of compound of Formula V to a compound of Formula II through a Michael addition:



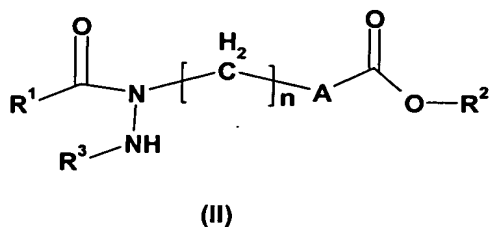
wherein A, B, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are as defined above; R<sup>4</sup> is H.



Claim 35 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The process according to claims 32 to 34~~  
claim 32, further comprising the step of saponification of the resulting compound of Formula  
I, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is not H into a compound of Formula I, and wherein R<sup>2</sup> is H.

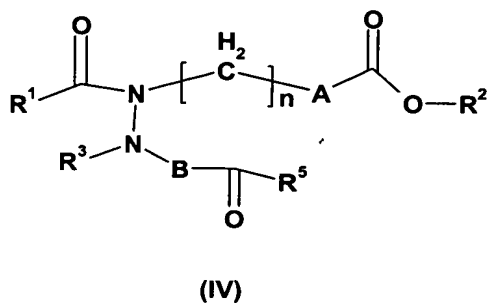
Claim 36 (Currently Amended): ~~[[A]] The process according to claims 32 to 35~~  
claim 32, wherein A is phenyl.

Claim 37 (Original): A compound of Formula II:



as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers,  
diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein A, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and n are  
as defined above.

Claim 38 (Original): A compound of Formula IV:



as well as its geometrical isomers, its optically active forms as enantiomers,  
diastereomers and mixtures of these, as well as salts thereof, wherein A, R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and n  
are as defined above.